

Patent Application:  
Serial No. 10/645,426  
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Conf. No. 8876

Examiner: P. Do

Art Unit: 1641

For: Arrays formed of Encoded Beads  
Having Ligands Attached

**Preliminary Amendment**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria VA

Dear Sir:

In response to the final rejection and Board decision in this matter, please consider the following claim amendments.

The support for newly added elements in claim 76, is as follows:

"wherein different particle-attached ligands are randomly distributed throughout the array" - para. 81, last line (published application) "In this way, the location of the individual beads is random, but the relative proportion of each type of bead within the array is controllable."

"at a density greater than that achieved by bringing the particles within a distance from each other less than the diameter of the particles." - para. 9

"finally exhibit a spatial arrangement in the form of a crystalline, or ordered, array resembling a raft of bubbles;" para. 48, second to last sentence: "the eventual formation of ordered arrays displaying a hexagonally crystalline configuration in the form of a bubble raft." (underlined term also supports new claim 9). This element is also supported in the various figures, showing photographs of the array, i.e., 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 3C, 3D, 4A - it is clear that the particles shown meet the limitation stated.

These same sections above also support newly added claim 96.

"fluoresce" - e.g., para. 86 (also mentions beads are one micron as claim 95); para. 109;

"individual particle-attached ligands including distinguishing different particle-attached ligands" para. 101

Respectfully submitted:

/EPM/

Eric Mirabel

REg. No. 31,211